



NEWS RELEASE

Jason R. Ravensborg
South Dakota Attorney General

Charles McGuigan
Chief Deputy Attorney General

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, March 5, 2019
CONTACT: Tim Bormann (605) 773-3215

Attorney General Jason Ravensborg Urges Congress to Take Action Against Robocalls

PIERRE S.D. - Attorney General Jason Ravensborg today urged the U.S. Senate to enact the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence (TRACED) Act, legislation to curb illegal robocalls and spoofing. A coalition of XX attorneys general, led by North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein, Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson, New Hampshire Attorney General Gordon J. MacDonald, and Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood, sent a letter to the U. S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation supporting the TRACED Act. The legislation is sponsored by Sens. John Thune and Ed Markey.

"I am proud to join Attorneys General from across the nation to support this step to put a stop to the unwanted robocalls and robotexts our citizens endure on a regular basis."

In their letter, the attorneys general state that the TRACED Act enables states, federal regulators, and telecom providers to take steps to combat these illegal calls. The legislation will require voice service providers to participate in a call authentication framework to help block unwanted calls and creates an interagency working group to take additional actions to reduce robocalls and hold telemarketers and robocallers accountable.

More than 48 billion robocalls were made in 2018, making them the number one source of consumer complaints to the FTC and the FCC and resulting in millions in consumer losses. The state attorneys general work to enforce do-not-call laws and protect consumers in their states from being harassed and scammed by robocalls.

Attorney General Jason Ravensborg is joined in sending this letter by the Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, N. Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Click on [TRACE ACT](#) to view the letter.

Pictured Below: SD Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg, Senator John Thune, AG MacDonald of New Hampshire and AG Peterson of Nebraska



-30-